

SENATE BILL 3206
By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-8-111 and Title 68, Chapter 14, Part 3, relative to health certificates for food handlers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-8-111(b), is amended by adding the following language at the end of that section:

Such certificate must be renewed annually and kept on file so as to be available to the superintendent of foods, the commissioner, or other legal agent of the Tennessee department of agriculture.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 14, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section to be appropriately designated:

Section _____. (a) No employer shall require, permit, or suffer any person to work, nor shall any person work in a food service establishment who is affected with a communicable disease which may be transmitted by food.

(b) Each person employed in a food service establishment shall procure a health certificate showing that such person is free from disease or diseases transmissible through food. Such certificate must be renewed annually and kept on file so as to be available to the commissioner or other legal agent of the Tennessee department of health.

(c) Such certificate shall be signed by a physician licensed to practice in this state.

(d) Before signing such certificate the physician shall make such examination and laboratory tests as in his or her opinion are reasonable and necessary for the proper issuance of a food handler's health certificate and such tests as are given shall be set out on the certificate by the physician.

(e) Diseases designated in regulations promulgated under the authority of and by the Tennessee department of health as transmissible through food shall be applicable under the provisions of this section.

(f) Local boards of health and local health officers are hereby empowered to enforce the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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